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**Tough decisions made to ensure continued student success  
for Mapleton School District**

**Thornton/Adams County** – The Mapleton Public Schools’ Board of Education will finalize the decision to make several school changes for 2010-11 that support the needs of Mapleton’s students. The changes include:

- Closing two low-performing, under-enrolled schools – Welby New Technology High School and Enrichment Academy;
- Moving the Montessori school from the shared Skyview Campus to a stand-alone facility at the Welby site;
- Moving seven preschool classes from the former Mapleton High School building to other District facilities; and
- Adjusting class sizes District wide - lowering the teacher / student ratio for kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades while increasing the ratios for 3rd – 12th grades.

“We need to make some difficult decisions right away in order to properly prepare for the 2010-2011 academic year,” said Charlotte Ciancio, Superintendent, Mapleton Public Schools. “These decisions best preserve our mission and commitment to student success and achievement.”

The decision to close the two schools was based on several years of low achievement results and a trend of declining enrollment.

Moving the Montessori school from the shared Skyview Campus to a stand alone facility at the Welby site allows that program to continue to grow as a PK-6 program. The Skyview Campus is currently home to three secondary schools: Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts (grades 7-12), Skyview Academy (grades 9-12) and the North Valley School for Young Adults (students ages 17 – 21).

Moving seven preschool classes from the former Mapleton High School building to other District facilities allows us to expand the lease of that building with the New America Charter School and focus the operations and maintenance resources to other needs throughout the District. It also allows the District to place one of the highest quality preschool programs in the State into the more populated areas of our community.

Raising class sizes in grades 3-12 will allow the district to balance its budget. At the same time, lowering class size at the K-2 levels helps teachers better support the necessary skills in those critical early years of a child’s development.

For the 2010-11 academic year, Mapleton is proud to offer options for learning that are aligned with the needs, interests and passions of Mapleton students. The District is confident the Mapleton community will continue to see student growth and achievement in every school and every classroom.

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## Mapleton Points of Pride

- In 2009, nearly 100% of Mapleton's seniors applied to college and 97% were accepted to the college of their choice.
- In 2008-09 244 students completed 318 college level courses 93% of those courses were completed above a satisfactory level (a higher success rate than most college freshman classes).
- 2008-09 Mapleton graduates received \$1.4 million in scholarship funds to pursue post secondary education.
- 23 of 27 CSAP tests increased percent proficient and advanced from 2007-08, including seven in reading, seven in writing, six in math and three in science.
- 17 of 21 tests increased the median growth percentile from 2007-08, including seven in reading, six in writing and four in math.